

Scientific Note:

Orthosia rubricosa (Esper) in Oak Woodland of Buğlan Pass (Muş Province) (*Lepidoptera*, *Noctuidae*)

by

Muhabbet Kemal Ahmet Ömer Koçak

Within the field programs of the year 2007, the authors visited Buğlan Pass in Muş Province (East Turkey) ¹ on 26 May and 2 June, 2007, in order to contribute to the provincial fauna of the Lepidoptera.

In the following note, larval and pupal stages of the Noctuid moth, *Orthosia rubricosa* (Esper) are illustrated. The caterpillars were collected by the first author on the leaves of the Oak (*Quercus* sp.) and reared until 17 June 2007. Moth hatched on 26th April, 2008.

Environment of the collecting locality was extremely pleasant due to the blossomed *Paeonia* plants. Unfortunately, flowers of these plants were destructed by various scarabaeid beetles within few days.

Below, the vicinity of Buğlan Pass, *Paeonia* plants, and the early stages of the *Orthosia rubricosa* (Esp.) are illustrated. For comparison, an image of *Orthosia rubricosa* caterpillar by Beck (2000) is also provided.

¹ The remote areas of the Eastern Turkey, including Siirt Province are currently extremely dangerous for the night studying, due to the terrorist activities. Our field surveys have been carrying out under these circumstances for years. For details visit the official Web Page of the Turkish General Staff (TGS) in Turkish: http://www.tsk.mil.tr/HABERLER_ve_OLAYLAR/5_Terorle_Mucadele/terorle_mucadele_2008.htm



Fig. 1- *Paeonia* sp. (*Paeoniaceae*) Turkey Muş Prov., Buğlan Geçidi 1640m, 26 5 2007 PV3 M Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 2- *Paeonia* sp. (*Paeoniaceae*) with *Oxythyrea funesta* individuals. Turkey Muş Prov., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 26 5 2007 PV3 M. Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 3- *Orthosia rubricosa* (=miniosa) (Beck, 2000, Die Larven der europäischen Noctuidae. *Herbipoliana* 5: Taf. 71, fig. B633)

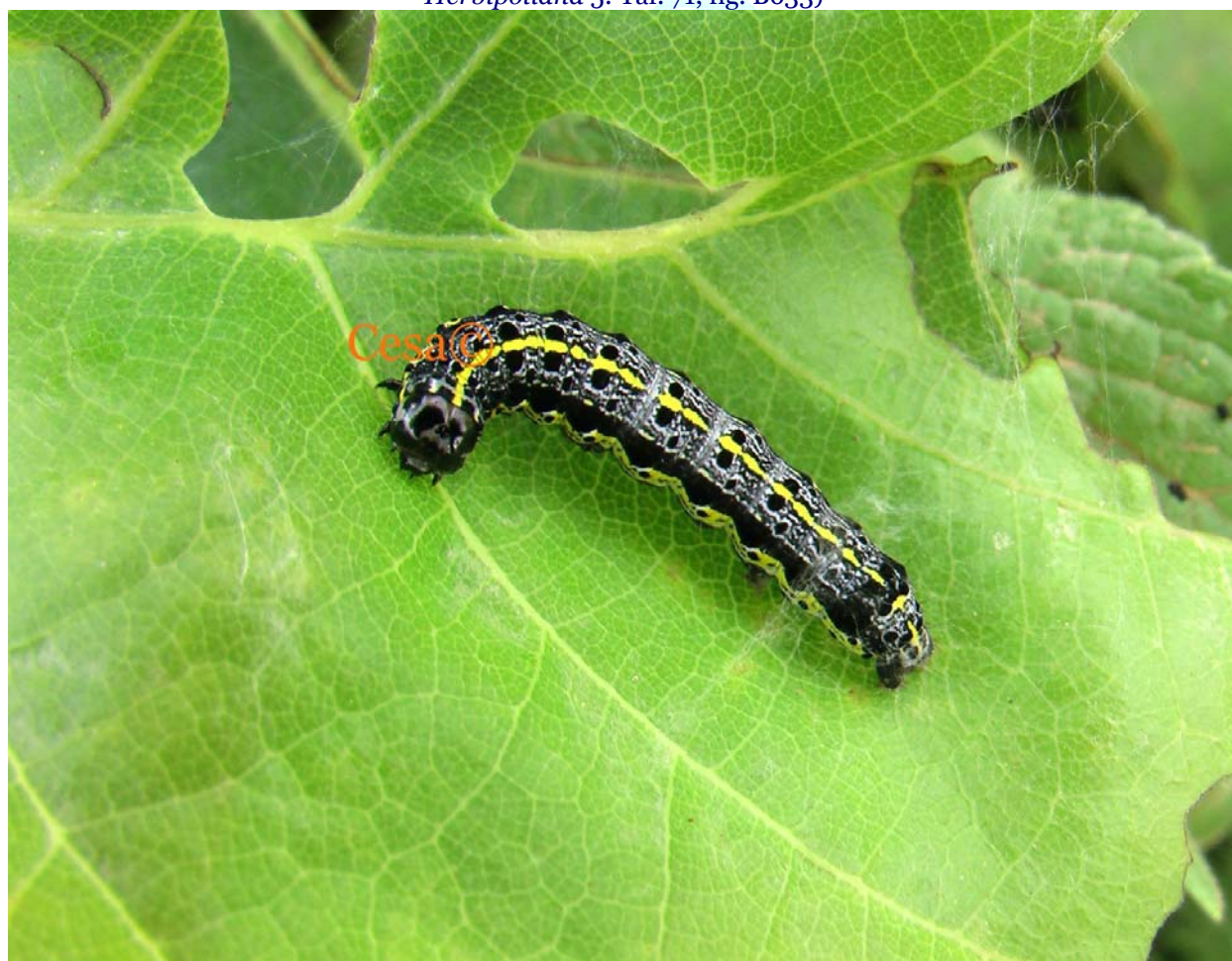


Fig. 4- *Orthosia rubricosa* (Noctuidae) grown caterpillar on *Quercus* leaf. Turkey Muş Pr., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 2 6 2007 PV8 M Kemal (Cesa)

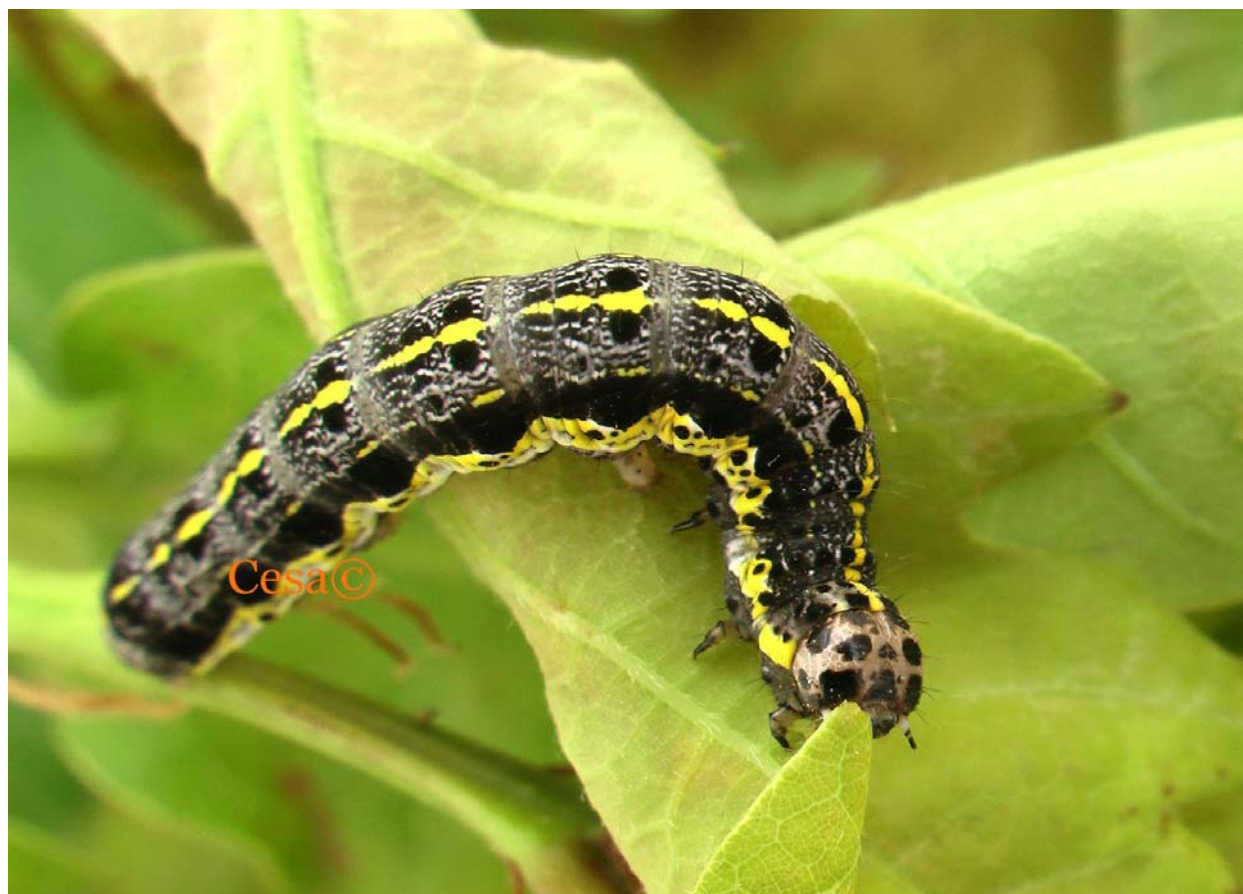


Fig. 5- *Orthosia rubricosa* (Noctuidae) grown caterpillar on *Quercus* leaf. Reared in the laboratory ex Turkey Muş Pr., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 7 6 2007 PV8 M. Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 6- *Orthosia rubricosa* (Noctuidae) full grown caterpillars on *Quercus* leaves. Reared in the laboratory ex Turkey Muş Pr., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 12 6 2007 PV8 M. Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 7- *Orthosia rubricosa* (Noctuidae) pre-pupa and pupa among *Quercus* leaves. Reared in the laboratory ex Turkey Muş Pr., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 17 6 2007 PV8 M. Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 8- *Orthosia rubricosa* (Noctuidae) pupae. Reared in the laboratory ex Turkey Muş Pr., Buğlan Geçidi 1600m, 29 6 2007 PV8 M. Kemal (Cesa)

Scientific Note:

A New Record of *Neurergus crocatus* (Cope, 1862) in South East Turkey (Salamandridae, Caudata)

by

Muhabbet Kemal



Fig. 1- Mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District, 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)

Within the field programs of the year 2008, the author visited Siirt Province (South East Turkey)² on 23- 26 April, 2008, in order to contribute to the provincial fauna of the Lepidoptera.

During field studies, on 25 4 2008, the author observed Spotted Newt³ specimens in the cold mountain stream at the northern territories of Şirvan District (Fig.1). The specimens (ca. 20 cm in length) were photographed in the place, where found, and released. Attempts on identifying the specimens at the specific/subspecific level according to the images taken in the field could not

² The remote areas of the Eastern Turkey, including Siirt Province are currently extremely dangerous for the night studying, due to the terrorist activities. Our field surveys have been carrying out under these circumstances for years. For details visit the official Web Page of the Turkish General Staff (TGS) in Turkish: http://www.tsk.mil.tr/HABERLER_ve_OLAYLAR/5_Terrorle_Mucadele/terrorle_mucadele_2008.htm

³ Newts are small to medium sized, semi-aquatic salamanders. They are distributed throughout the Northern Hemisphere in temperate-warm areas.

be successful. The patterns of yellowish spots covering the upperside of the whole body seems remarkable. In the internet sources, among the species of the genus *Neurergus* Cope,1862⁴, inhabiting Middle Eastern countries, the patterns of Şirvan specimens could not be found. According to Uğurluay (2005: 573)⁵, *Neurergus crocatus* (Cope,1862) is recorded at Beytüşşebap (Şırnak Prov.) only. The image used for *N. crocatus* is the similar with the Şirvan specimens under discussion. However, in the internet source ⁶, Mr. Henk Wallays submitted numerous images of *N. crocatus*, with different body patterns from Şirvan specimens. For example, in the *N. crocatus* photographed by Wallays⁷ body spots are usually larger and less in number. Head possesses 3-5 large spots, while body apparently with two dorso-lateral rows of large spots. In Şirvan specimens, head possesses more than 10 medium-sized spots. On the upperside of the body, between anterior and posterior legs about 30-50 spots can be counted. Furthermore, dorso-lateral spot rows poorly developed. All the spots cover the upperside of the body more homogenously distributed (Figs. 2-9).

This record of *Neurergus crocatus* in Siirt Province is apparently new (Fig.10).

I am of the opinion that this different patterns of *N. crocatus*, appearing in the South East Turkey, should be evaluated taxonomically, if it is not an individual or sexual form.

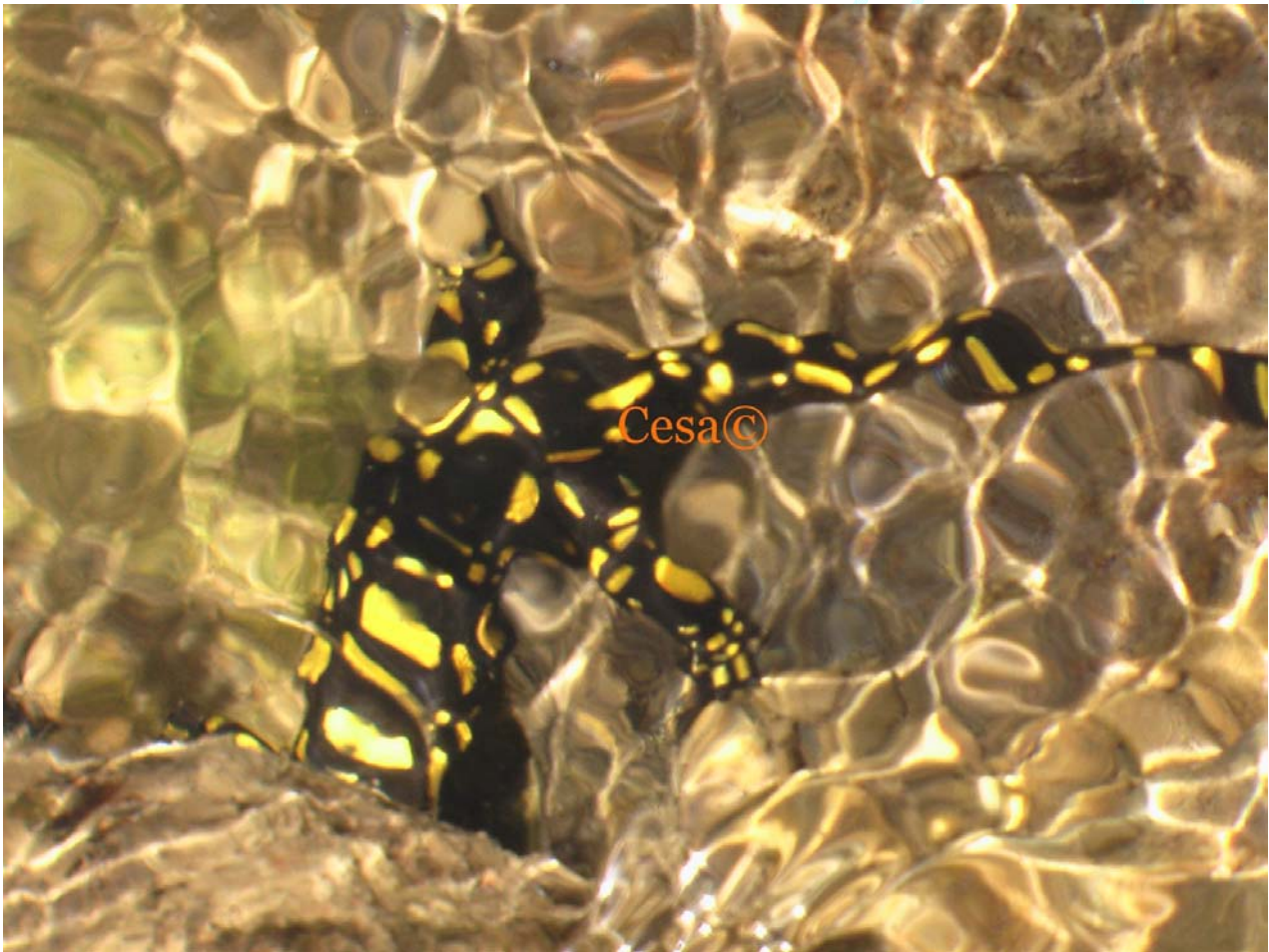


Fig. 2- *Neurergus crocatus* in the mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)

⁴ The genus *Neurergus* is represented by four species in the Middle East: *N. crocatus*, *N. kaiseri*, *N. microspilotus*, and *N. strauchii*. <http://www.livingunderworld.org/caudata/database/salamandridae/> (Livingunderworld.org A Web Project about Amphibians)

⁵ Uğurluay, H., 2005, Türkiye'nin Doğa Rehberi. 797 S. Mart Matbaası, İstanbul.

⁶ <http://www.livingunderworld.org/caudata/database/salamandridae/neurergus/>

⁷ http://www.amphibiainfo.com/gallery/caudata/salamandridae/neurergus/crocatus/neurergus_crocatus_wallays.jpg

http://www.amphibiainfo.com/gallery/caudata/salamandridae/neurergus/crocatus/neurergus_crocatus_wallays_5.jpg

http://www.amphibiainfo.com/gallery/caudata/salamandridae/neurergus/crocatus/neurergus_crocatus_wallays_3.jpg



Fig. 3- *Neurergus crocatus* in the mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 4- *Neurergus crocatus* in the mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 5- *Neurergus crocatus* in the mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 6- *Neurergus crocatus* (underside) in the mountain stream in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 7- *Neurergus crocatus* in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 8- *Neurergus crocatus* in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)



Fig. 9- *Neurergus crocatus* in northern territories of Şirvan District 1500m (Siirt Province), 25 4 2008, Photo M.Kemal (Cesa)

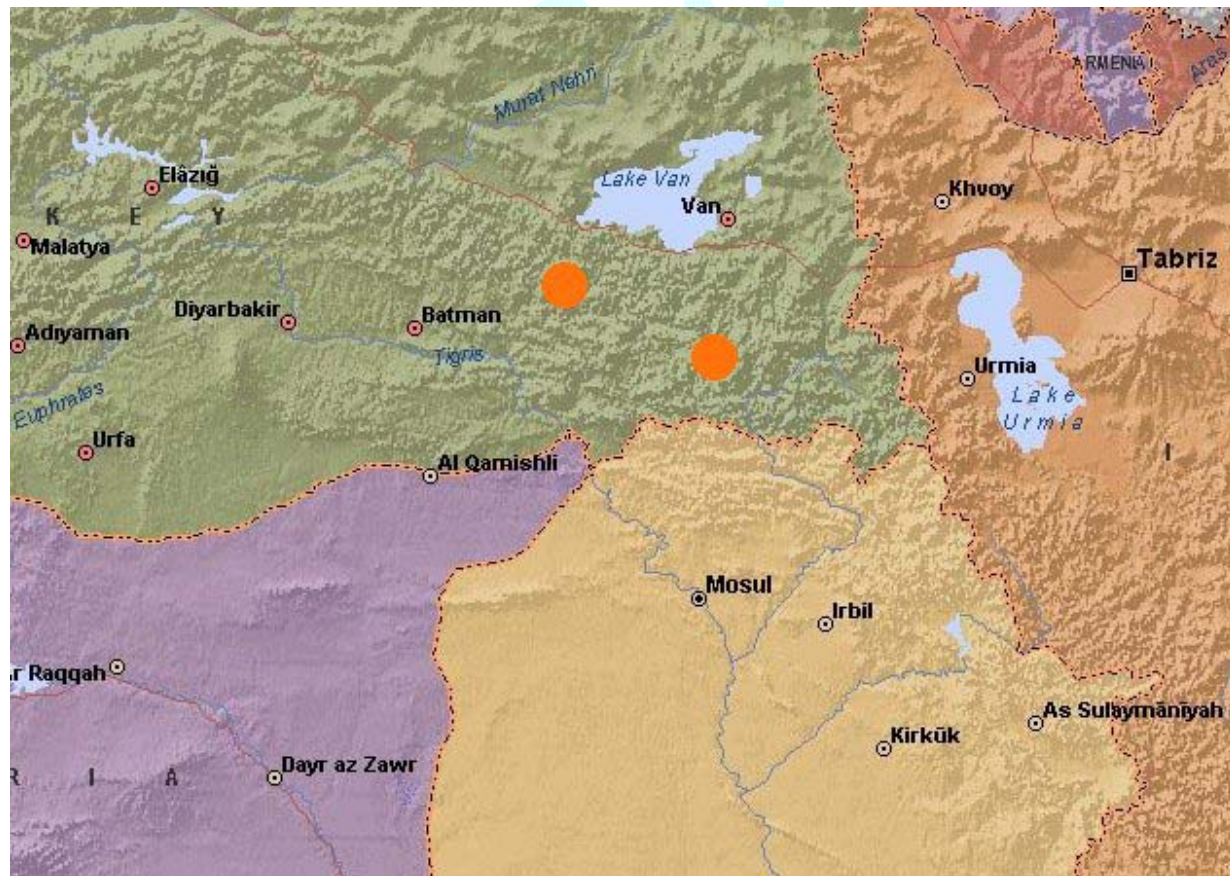


Fig. 10- Localities of the species *Neurergus crocatus* in South East Turkey [on the left Şirvan (Siirt Prov.), on the right Beytüşşebap (Şırnak Prov.)]



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Correspondences should be addressed to: Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ömer Koçak, c/o Yüzüncü Yıl University, Fen-Edebiyat Fakültesi, Biyoloji Bölümü, Kampus, Van / Turkey. - e-mail: cesa_tr@yahoo.com.tr

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¹² <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Icon.htm>

¹³ http://www.metafro.be/Members/Cesa/internet_sayfas305/base_view - pdf available

¹⁴ <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Cesanews.htm>

¹⁵ <http://www.cesa-tr.org/Cesabooks.htm>